

KAPOOR ET AL.
Cellular Telephone And Multimedia
Accessory Audio System ..."
Atty. Docket No. 11343

Appl. No. 09/933,321
Confirm. No.7056
Examiner S. Aminzay
Art Unit 2684

Allowability of Claims Over Ugge & Yamamoto

Rejection Summary

Claims 8-10, 12 and 14-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,781,850 (Ugge) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0142803 (Yamamoto). Office Action, 16 June 2005, para. 1.

The Examiner concedes that Ugge fails to disclose a "...signal generator...." The Examiner asserts however that it would have been obvious to

... include Yamamoto's command signal generator with Ugge's audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile wireless communication station to an audiocassette player.

Allowability of Claim 8

Regarding independent Claim 8, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Ugge and Yamamoto fail to disclose or suggest an

... audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette player, comprising:
a cassette head coupling device;
a mobile electronic device input coupled to the cassette head coupling device;
an audiocassette player command signal generator;
a control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator.

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The Examiner's reliance on Yamamoto to make up for the admitted deficiency of Ugge is untenable. At para. [0004], a stated object of Yamamoto is to eliminate the need for, or use of, car-kit accessories. Since Yamamoto specifically teaches away from the use of car-kits, there is no suggestion in Yamamoto to combine the Bluetooth signaling of Yamamoto with the car-kit accessory of Ugge.

Neither Ugge nor Yamamoto control a handset or an accessory using an audiocassette player and thus there is no need in either reference, alone or in combination, for an "audiocassette player command signal generator" and a "control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator." Ugge discloses a cassette adapter for coupling a cellular telephone to an automotive audio system to play voice communications over a vehicle audio system. Ugge however does not disclose controlling the handset using the cassette player control signals. As discussed below, Ugge in fact discloses disabling the functions (e.g., PLAY) based upon which the command signal generator produces control signals. Yamamoto discloses controlling (activating or de-activating) hands-free mode in a mobile station (MS) based on whether the MS has established a radio (Bluetooth) link with an audio device in a vehicle. Yamamoto controls the MS based on the proximity of the handset to the vehicle. The control in Yamamoto however is unrelated to cassette player controls. Claim 8 is therefore patentably distinguished over Ugge and Yamamoto.

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Allowability of Claim 9

Regarding Claim 9, Ugge and Yamamoto fail to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 8,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player commands.

Ugge does not disclose a command signal generator that outputs commands corresponding to the cassette player commands. At col. 5, lines 45-49 (referenced by the Examiner), Ugge discloses a plug (35) that disables recording/playing functions. In Claim 9, the control signal output of the audiocassette player command signal generator permits control of a portable electronic device, for example, an MP3 player or a cellular telephone phone, using the audiocassette player controls (e.g., play, stop, etc.). Yamamoto is not concerned with car kit accessories. Claim 9 is further patentably distinguished over Ugge and Yamamoto.

Allowability of Claim 10

Regarding Claim 10, Ugge and Yamamoto fail to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 8,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer with a transducer output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter.

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Ugge does not disclose a signal generator and therefore there is no suggestion for the transducer limitations of Claim 10. The passage at col. 1, lines 15-21 (cited by the Examiner) refers to the audio control on the vehicle cassette player. The "command signal generator" of Claim 10 is part of the claimed audiocassette adapter, not the vehicle cassette player. Claim 10 is thus further patentably distinguished over Ugge and Yamamoto.

Allowability of Claim 12

Regarding Claim 12, Ugge and Yamamoto fail to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 6,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a cassette head actuatable switch with a switch output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter.

Ugge does not disclose a signal generator and therefore there is no need or suggestion for the switch output limitations of Claim 12. Yamamoto is concerned with wireless communications between a mobile terminal and a car-mounted device. The switch-over device (13) of Ugge changes between the radio and telephone functionality, it has nothing to do with a cassette player signal command generator. Claim 12 is thus further patentably distinguished over Ugge and Yamamoto.

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Allowability of Claim 14

Regarding Claim 14, Ugge and Yamamoto fail to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 8,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising an cassette head actuatable switch, the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer;

a logic device having an output coupled to the control signal output;

a switch output of the audiocassette player head actuatable switch coupled to an input of the logic device, a transducer output of the rotational transducer coupled to another input of the logic device.

Generally since Ugge does not disclose an "audiocassette player command signal generator" there is no suggestion for the transducer limitations of Claim 14. For example, Ugge does not disclose a rotational transducer. At col. 2, lines 49-57 and at col. 3, lines 9-16 (both relied upon by the Examiner), Ugge discusses a magnetic transducer; not a "rotational transducer". Claim 14 is thus further patentably distinguished over Ugge and Yamamoto.

Allowability of Claim 15

Regarding Claim 15, Ugge and Yamamoto fail to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 14,

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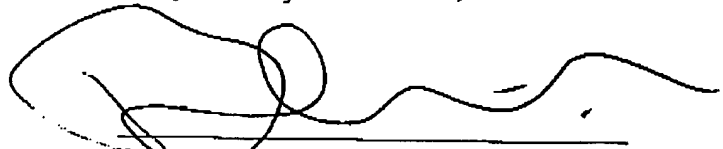
... the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player commands.

At col. 5, lines 45-49, (referenced by the Examiner) Ugge discloses a plug (35) that disables recording/playing functions. Ugge thus teaches away from the generator of control signals based on audiocassette player controls. Ugge does not disclose a command signal generator that outputs commands corresponding to the cassette player commands. Yamamoto is unconcerned with car kit accessories. Claim 15 is further patentably distinguished over Ugge and Yamamoto.

Prayer For Relief

In view of the amendments and the discussion above, the Claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Kindly withdraw any rejections and objections and allow this application to issue as a United States Patent without further delay.

Respectfully submitted,



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